

Marble Palace Zoo

Kolkata

Annual Report 2016-17



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Message

Marble Palace Zoo is the oldest Zoo in India. It is a heritage zoo that attracts the people of India and abroad to see and experience its high heritage and also to take the experience from it.

The zoo is a private zoo which is now under the guidance and approval of the Central Zoo Authority. With the help of the Central Zoo Authority, the Marble Palace Zoo has been able to improve in its various factors and conditions for the benefit and wellbeing of the animals and birds.

The zoo is privately maintained and it is a prized achievement of the house. In accordance to the Central Zoo Authority improvements has been brought. Since the zoo is within the heart of the city of Kolkata, people get the experience of the richness of the wildlife as purely as possible. Students' of various schools and colleges under many universities come to the zoo and are greatly enriched with the knowledge of the animals and birds.



The Marble Palace Zoo and Marble Palace Museum and Art Gallery.

History

Marble Palace Zoo is the pioneer of Zoos established in the year 1854 and it is the oldest zoo in India. It is situated in the middle of the city of Kolkata. Originally it was the zoo garden of the Marble Palace, but it was open to the public from the beginning.

The visitors of the Marble Palace Zoo visit both the Marble Palace Zoo and Marble Palace Art Gallery and Museum. Both are free of charge.

This heritage zoo has many heritage structures, cages and enclosures. Some of them are nearly 200 years old.

The Authorities tried to keep them in its original form as much as possible.

The Founder of the Marble Palace Zoo, Raja Rajendro Mullick Bahadur has the idea and in his Trust Deed he mentioned that “the keeping of the birds and animals will be for the entertainment and education of the general public”. The public will come and see the birds and animals of this country as well as the world.

The exiled Nawab/Nawab of Audh Wajed Ali Shah, being the friend of the Founder Raja Rajendro Mullick brought some exotic birds including White Peacock for the Zoo and he also presented some animals and artifacts to him.

As the founder of the zoo had deep knowledge of Ornithology, the Antwerp Zoological Society of Belgium, made him the Honorary Member and advisor of the Antwerp zoo permanently. Not only that, the far situated Melbourne Zoological Society also honored him by giving honorary diploma in Zoology. Being a great animal and bird lover he requested the then, British Authorities to establish a zoo with a big area and The Alipore Zoological Garden which is the main Zoo of Kolkata started by the inspiration of him and his eldest son, Debendro Mullick. The first building, enclosure of Alipore Zoo was constructed and donated by him, “The Mullick House”. It was at the front of the Alipore Zoo, existed till 10 years back also, but now it has been demolished for a “new building cum enclosure for animals”.



Raja Rajenro Mullick Bahadur, The Founder of the Marble Palace Zoo.

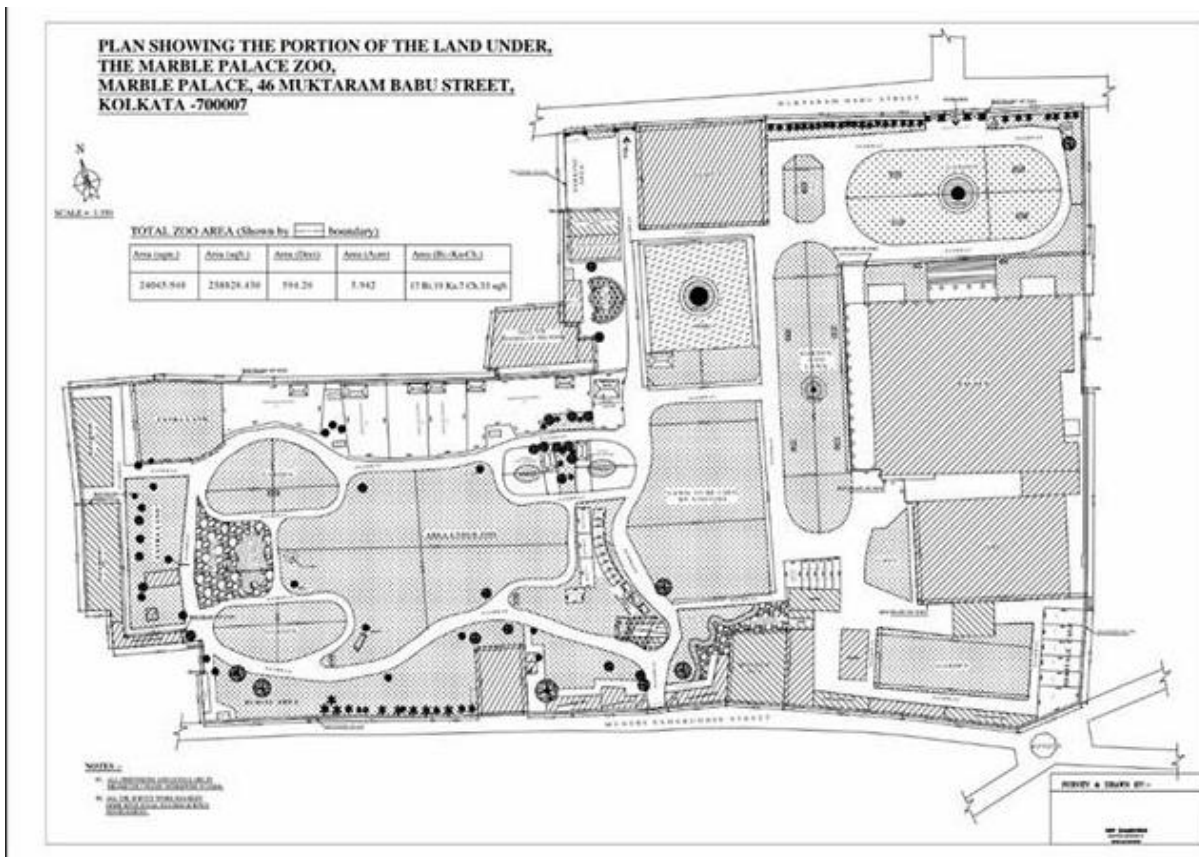


The Zoo Premises

Area Survey - Lay Out of the Zoo

The area layout of the Zoo has been done and finalized in accordance to the Central Zoo Authority. Conditions and criteria have been taken into consideration and the plan has been made by our eminent architect.

The plan has already been sent to the Central Zoo Authority for further clarification.



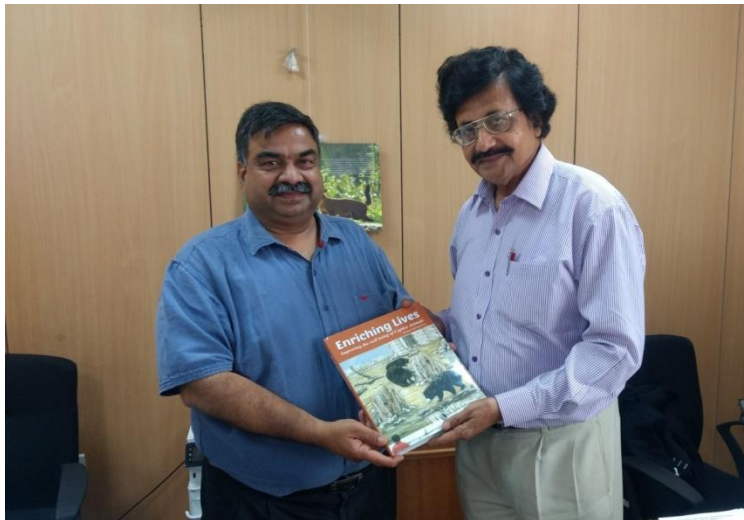
Area of Marble Palace Zoo

Meet to Central Zoo Authority

The Director of the Marble Palace Zoo had been asked to meet the Member Secretary of the Central Zoo Authority, Dr.D.N Singh in the month of May 2017. The Director of the Marble Palace Zoo presented the improvements and conditions of the zoo to the Central Zoo Authority. Dr.D.N Singh and Dr.Brij Kishore Gupta greatly helped in the understanding of the physical, biological and behavioral aspects of the animals .The Book “Enriching Lives” presented by Dr.Brij Kishor Gupta was of high value and greatly helped in understanding of the animals, particularly in captivity.



The Marble Palace Director with Dr.D.N.Singh.



The Marble Palace Zoo Director with Dr.Brij Kishor Gupta.

Marble Palace Zoo at a Glance

- Name of the Zoo- Marble Palace Zoo
- Address- 46, Mukta Ram Babu Street Kolkata 700007.
- Director of the Zoo- Dr. Tapendro Mullick.
- Opening Time- 10 am – 4 pm Mondays and Thursdays closed.
- Entry Fee- Absolutely Free.
- Contact- 9830058160

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The bird enclosures.

Vision-

The vision of the Marble Palace Zoo is to make aware the people of the livelihood of the animals and birds.

The visitors can have a combined and enriching experience of the lush heritage so provided by the Art gallery with that of the livelihood of the animals and birds.



The heritage cage structures

Mission-

- i. Conservation and breeding of endangered species .
- ii. Providing a naturalistic environment for the animals.
- iii. Providing knowledge and enrichment to the visitors about the lifestyle of animals.



The Deer Enclosure.

Strategy –

We, the Marble Palace Zoo Authority are of the opinion to provide the best kind of habitat that can be provided to every animal in natural lifestyle.



Way to the Zoo.

Objective

The Marble Palace Zoo being a mini Zoo is only concerned and concentrated upon the well being of the animals and birds. It is the foremost and the most important objective of the zoo. Other objectives of the zoo is spreading of conservation, education and creating awareness among the people.



The deer enclosures.

Amenities to the Visitors-

The visitors visiting the Marble Palace Zoo are able to understand and enjoy the heritage and also the livelihood of the animals and birds. There is good signaling of the road directions in the zoo premises, so the visitors have no problem. Drinking water is also available for the visitors. Toilets are also present for the convenience of the visitors.

There are sitting areas and benches where people can sit and relax.



Visitors can sit and relax



The Lawn

Expenditure

The Marble Palace Zoo is a private zoo and all the expenditures for the care taking of the animals and birds are taken up and carried on by the Trust.

Enclosures

Since the animals are living in the enclosures, optimum amount of care and concerns are taken to the protection and well being of the animals and birds. Cages and enclosure are so provided which provide with highest amount of wildlife feel in the city as per the direction of the Central Zoo Authority.

Ducks and Pelicans are able to swim freely in the enclosed pond area.



The pond enclosure where ducks and pelicans swim.

New Births-

Marble Palace Zoo is of the highest opinion of breeding new life. For many decades the breeding procedures of animals and birds have been carried on. Till this day new babies of animals and birds are continuing in the zoo, which makes the zoo exceptionally proud.

Peafowl's, some mutated forms of Indian Ring Neck Parakeet,(Blue Lutino etc),Alexadrine Parakeet (mutated Lutino form),pheasants, Pied Hornbill, Four Horn Antelope and some other animals and birds are born.



Visit of Educational Institutions

The Marble Palace Zoo is greatly concerned about the proper care of animals, and it can be only done when people are made aware. So the newer generations must be made aware and made understood about the livelihood and behavior of animals and birds. Many eminent and renowned schools of Kolkata have visited the Zoo. Schools such as Loreto Day School Bowbazar, Carmel High School, Patha Bhavan, South Point etc, have visited and have been enriched with the knowledge of wildlife especially in captivity.

Other colleges under the Calcutta University have also visited the zoo and they still do the same.



Heritage Cages



Heritage enclosures



The Duck Enclosure

As the inventory report of the birds and animals including births and deaths are being sent to the Central Zoo Authority regularly, we are not reporting the same in the annual report.